IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph at page 8, lines 6-15 as follows:

At step 270, the destination address is determined based on the formatted request address. The destination address can include, for example, the formatted request address, the carrier identifier, the network identifier and the gateway identifier. The proper destination address allows the message to be effectively sent to a destination entity associated with the destination party. A look-up table can be used to obtain the appropriate routing information such as, for example, the carrier identifier, the network identifier and the gateway identifier, that are collectively referred to herein as part of a destination address. An example of a record from such a look-up table is illustrated in FIG. 3. At step ~~275~~ 360, the received text message is sent to the destination address via the previously identified carrier.